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**FAX TRANSMISSION COVER LETTER**

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Examiner L. Bouchelle  
Mail Stop Amendment  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DATE: March 14, 2006  
FROM: David M. Crompton

OUR REF: 1001.1704101  
TELEPHONE: 612-677-9050

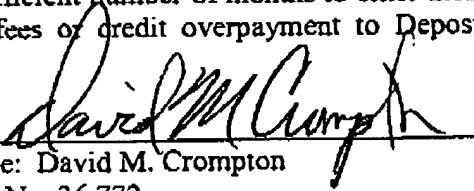
Total pages, including cover letter: 12

PTO FAX NUMBER: 571-273-8300

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Title of Document(s) Transmitted: AMENDMENT  
Applicant: Steven A. McAuley et al.  
Serial No.: 10/828,572  
Filed: April 21, 2004  
Group Art Unit: 3763  
Our Ref. No.: 1001.1704101  
Confirmation No.: 5285  
Customer No.: 28075

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By:   
Name: David M. Crompton  
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I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

  
Name: Kathleen L. Bockley

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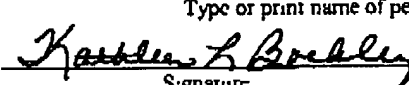
**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Steven A. McAuley et al. Confirmation No.: 5285  
Serial No.: 10/828,572 Examiner: L. Bouchelle  
Filing Date: April 21, 2004 Group Art Unit: 3763  
Docket No.: 1001.1704101 Customer No.: 28075  
For: TRACTION BALLOON

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**AMENDMENT**

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<u>Kathleen L. Bookley</u>	
Type or print name of person signing certification	
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Signature	Date

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed December 15, 2005, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on March 15, 2006. This paper is filed within the set period for response such that no extension of time is necessary.

Please consider the following amendments and/or remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.